# The Indian Poultry Gazette.

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## EDITORIAL NEWS.

We must apologise for not replying individually to our many readers who wrote in to us concerning the enlarged June Gazette and we would like to say we appreciate the nice things said about the variety which we usually aim to make seasonable. July is even larger and, we hope, more interesting.

Now that those of us who are also amateur gardeners will be thinking of our cold season's seeds we would draw reader's attention to the coloured plate inside especially as our old friend Mr. C. Reader, who is himself a horticulturist speaks so highly of Messrs. Pocha & Sons seeds.

Mr. Reader is well known of us as to most Poultry judge who has judged our All India Exhibitions in Calcutta.

Under 'letters to the Editor' we publish a communication from a reader in Simla which strikes us really worth going into deeper and we would be pleased to hear other views on the subject. and will be pleased to publish same in the Gazette.

If sufficient co-operation is likely we hope to put this on the agenda of our next Annual General Meeting for discussion.

Our opinion is that there is a lot to be said for a Co-operative Egg Marketing Society but we qualify this by saying that eyes should be on India first before we think of sale elsewhere as there is a big market for the 2 oz. egg in India and the market is growing daily. The one trouble we have to contend with here is distance, and distance does not add freshness to a new laid egg.

The average price of the Bazaar egg to-day is 5 to 6 annas per dozen and we know of many cases where private individuals, stores, clubs, hotels, etc., will take all the 2 oz. eggs we can supply that are guaranteed new laid, at Rs. 1-8 a dozen.

"Sperrin" P. F. have this month got something of interest to importers of 1st class stock and there is little need for us to say other than read their notification inside this issue

At the time of going to press we are not certain if we shall be able to include the plate of the "Lady Ezra" Cup but it is hoped to have it ready for this issue as promised.

We are sure this very attractive trophy will stimulate still further interest in the Minorca as an exhibition bird as well as a utility breed and on behalf of the Club we wish to convey our great thanks to Lady Ezra for presenting us with so very fine a cup.

We are still unable to state definitely where the next All India will be held but the majority of opinion is at present for Calcutta. Such being the case we trust our committee member for the U. P. will be able to arrange a show to be held in the U. P. as there is a lot of interest in the fancy in that province.

Some readers have written in to us regarding the article we published on sanitation and we would once again advise poulty keepers to go in for an "Eclipse" sprayer. We have one in daily use in our yard and we can safely say it has been a boon to us in many ways.

We regret to have to inform readers that we are entirely out of our 2nd consignment of Feathered World Year books and are at present not able to get a further supply.

### The Egg and the Hen,

Dinner (examining bill) : "What ! A shilling for one egg ?"

Waiter : "Yes, sir, sure ! That includes the wear and tear on the hen."

### Wisdom from the Dock,

Judge : "How did you manage to steal so many chickens before being caught ?

Russus : "Taint no use to tell yo', Judge. Yo'd jest git catched. Yo'd betfah stick to yo' own line, sah."

# WHAT IS A BALANCED RATION?

*An Intriguing Feeding Problem Discussed.*

Look through the query columns of any poultry paper and the above comparatively simple looking question will be found in almost never failing regularity.

The replies given to the querist are so varied that personal ideas concerning the materials to be employed in the mixing of a "balanced ration" differ very materially.

It is observed that no two poultry experts agree as to what combinations of grains, meals, minerals, vitamin bearing foods carbohydrates, and other nutrients *are required in proper proportion, so that all the ingredients* balance with each other.

The term, "balanced ration," would, I consider, be more appropriate to be spoken of as a good, or complete ration, for, of course, a theoretically balanced ration to be perfectly blended is one in which all of the ingredients are minutely and properly related to each other. That is, not too much of one, nor too little of the other.

### Where the Difference Comes.

A balanced ration for chicken rearing differs considerably from the rations required by young growing pullets or laying fowl. Yet in the majority of cases the foods recommended for these purposes are almost identical, the exception being perhaps the foods for newly-hatched chicks.

*I consider the rations for growth should differ greatly from the formulas given for egg-laying.* There should also be another ration for fattening, and yet another for the maintenance of the body. Many, however, will claim that the maintenance of the body is met when an egg-producing ration is fed, but does it supply sufficient material for all production, inside and outside, of the body.

This question may raise a few eyebrows in discussing the outside of a hen when the inside is generally accepted as the all-important part of the layer.

A little thought will show that if one kind of feed is contained in the ration for any particular purpose it goes to the purpose for which it is fed. If one ingredient is given to enable the hen to manufacture, say, the albumen for her eggs, she must have another for supplying pigmentation, in various parts of her body, both inside and out.

### Feeding for a Purpose.

A vitamin supplying food with minerals for digestive and shell requirements is also needed.

It would seem, therefore, the outside of a laying hen requires special attention as well as the inside.

Everybody knows how a full moult can be brought about and at any season simply by feeding moult-producing food; thus is feathering affected.

A balanced ration is an expression given to almost all poultry foods on the market to-day, and every poultry food manufacturer has his own special formula and personal ideas of some ingredient employed in the blending, which another may not consider at all.

Take, for instance, the use of cod liver oil, or its non-use in the so-called balanced ration. Its addition alters the balance of any mixture to a great extent. Yet both manufacturers claim to be right, one for its inclusion, the other declaring cod liver oil not necessary if larger quantities of foods containing lime is given.

Again, fish meal may be a part of a manufactured balanced ration, yet may not be in another mixture claiming the same distinction. Meat scrap and blood meals and many other ingredients can be included or left out of any mixture according to personal idea.

The rations require by fowls kept on the intensive system *are of a vastly different mixture to those on* free range. What is absolutely necesaary for the flock kept indoors would be less imperative to fowls with unlimited freedom.

The presence of cod liver oil in the ration for the intensive flock would mean much easier assimilation of the lime content in the feed, because of the vitamin "D" found in this oil. Fowls at large would be able to gather considerable quantities of minerals with all the necessary vitamins in natural green food and in place of the cod not yet been discovered.

A properly proportioned food for one lot of fowl might be entirely unsuitable for another flock. Different formulas must be made for poulty on limited space where they cannot feed on the hundred and one things that the free range birds can gather.

### Vitamin Giving Insects.

The number of insects eaten by birds on grass pastures is enormous, and what minerals these insects contain of special benefit to laying stock has not yet been discovered.

Fowls kept indoors are denied this food from Nature's table, and therefore it has to be supplied.

It is not so long ago that the health-giving, elusive vitamins were first discovered, and these first four, enumerated alphabetically are all very necessary to every living thing.

Ten to twenty years ago the value of minerals in poultry feeding was not considered as it is to-day. The giving of flint grit for gizzard needs, and oyster-shelt, lime, old mortar, etc., for egg-shell making shows vitamins and minerals are closely related in all manner of poultry foods.

A new light has been thrown on poultry nutrition through these rations found to contain the required amount of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, ash, fibre, irons, sulphurs, and water.

Potatoes are always included in fattening rations, but are considered to be of no value for other feeding, yet, at one time potatoes were much thought of, and, sprinkled liberally with pepper, were considered good to make hens lay.

So much for progress. I now leave the reader to decide for himself what is the best for his purpose.

**Leg Weakness out of Fashion.**

Leg weakness is going out of fashion due to the use of cod-liver oil, and probably in the next decade certain foods will be employed to cure other diseases.

Take whey, the latest food discovery, the liquid residue from cheese making and which was formerly thrown away. This is found to be a valuable poultry and chick food and a preventative and cure of B. W. D.—due to its large sugar content. Concluding I would say the perfect balanced ration is not yet in definite form to serve all purposes required in the feeding of poultry. Concentration of mind and materials to obtain the perfect blend that goes to produce a properly-balanced ration is essential for a continuance of high producers.

I would suggest that most commercial mash does't contain nearly enough of milk, or butter-milk to help keep down coccidiosis, white diarrhœa and leg weakness; more especially is this milk content required with young chick which need a good ten per cent. of butter-milk added to the regular feed.

Milk fed from early chickenhood ensures maturity and vigour, all of which are required in the heavy laying hen of to-day.

## THE SOUTH INDIAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

**The South Indian Poultry Association.**

The Annual show of the South Indian Poultry Association was held on 6th June 1931, at the grounds of the Coonoor Club, Coonoor, in combination with the Annual Nilgiri Agri-Horticultural and Animal Show, under the kind patronage of His Excellency the Governor of Madras, in a spacious tent specially pitched for the occasion the exhibits were neatly arranged in their respective show pens. Entries numbered about 185 birds on the whole and it was very gratifying to note that almost all the classes were well represented and exhibits received from the plains were also numerous. Varieties of Poultry, Bantams and Game birds contributed to the interesting nature of the show, while the splendid arrangements made the show attractive.

Among those birds staged, the Wyandotte, white Cocks and hens, exhibited by the Yuvarajah of Pithapuram on account of their beautiful snow white feathers, and fautless shape of limbs won the general admiration of those who visited the show. While some of those were keenly interested in the excellent specimens of Indian game of both sexes many were attracted by pretty little bantams exhibited by Rajkumari Sri Kamala Devi. The Minorca was better represented this year than in previous years. The light sussex variety were of the best and deserve special mention. Leghorns were very poorly represented, and few in number. All of these were very much appreciated by the visitors. It may be noted that fine Ducks and Geese, Turkeys Pigeons and egg of good size and colour were also exhibited.

Soon after judging was over, the show was opened to the public. The weather was delightful. The dark clouds that threatned us with a heavy down pour, fortunately cleared away leaving the day sunny bright. Visitors began to pour in from 2 p. m. till late in the evening. Their excellencies accompanied by chair staff paid a visit to the show. The Maharajah of Pithapuram (President), Mr. C. H. Reader, Rao Sahib A. Thangavelu Mudlaiar, the show Secretary, took them round. They were very interested in the valuable exhibits and were well pleased with the excellent collection.

At about 5. p. m. Silver cups and medals were presented to the successful exhibitors. Her Excellency was kind enough to give away the prizes to the winners. Major number of cups and medals were carried away by the Yuvarajah and Rajkumari of Pithapuram and we render our hearty congratulations to the Maharajah's family on their wonderful success and wish them further luck.

Our thanks are also due to the Judges for their impartial verdicts and for the pains they took in judging the exhibits which vied with one another in their excellence. We are also such indebted to Rao Sahib A. Thangavelu Mudaliar, who came all the way from Bangalore specially for this occassion. Through these columns we heartily thank those Maharajahs, Rajahs, Zemindars and nobles and others who by their munificient donations, and special prizes and cups have greatly helped us, and by their presence honoured us on the day of the show and have contributed much towards the grand success with which the show was attended, especially our thanks are due to the Maharajah of Pithapuram, our President for his liberal donation and also to Mrs. Egan of Kotagiri for the financial help rendered to meet the expenses of the show specially organized at Coonoor this year.

C. RATNAM,
*Hon. Secretary, S, I. P. Association.*

*Awards see page 110.*

**THIS MONTH'S POULTRY DISH.**

*Fried Chicken* - -

**Joint young chickens and put in cold water. When ready to cook remove from the water, drain, dredge (roll) with flour, and fry in hot lard (or butter) to a nice brown. Put in the oven and bake slowly until tender. A gravy can be made in the pan by pouring either a cup of milk of water in the pan. One should then thicken, season, let boil up and serve separately. Chickens from 3 to 6 months of age are suitable for frying.**

**THE TRUTH.**

Always on the job, the editor of a country newspaper replying to a customer's query, "What is your conception of a garden ?", thrust his quill into experience and wrote : "A garden is an enclosure for your neighbour's chickens."

A list of winners in the show is given below :—

**Class Prizes.**

*Class 1, Minorca, black, Cock.*—3 entries.

1st prize-Silver Medal, Won by The Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi. Winner, a fine bird.

*Class 2, Minorca, black, Hen.*—7 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. A. M. Kirby.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by The Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.
3rd prize Silver Medal, Won by Mrs. S. A. Coulter.

*Class 5, Leghorn, White, Cock.*—5 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

*Class, 6 Leghorn, White, Hen.*

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

*Class 9, Wyandotte, White, Cock.*—3 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rau.

*Class 10, Wyandotte, White, Hen.*—7 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rau.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rau.

*Class 10-A, Wyandotte, White, utility Hen.*—6 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

*Class 15, Rhode Island, Reds, Cock.*—6 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. M. Strauss.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by The Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.

Good type, colour very fair.

*Class 16, Rhode Islands, Reds, Hen.*—8 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by The Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.
3rd prize Silver Medal, Won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.

The winners nice birds, colour very fair but type rather peculiar in some birds.

*Class 17, Light Sussex, Cock.*—2 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.

Excellent type of Imported bird.

*Class 18, Light Sussex, Hen.*—5 entries.

2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. C. R. S. Sivam.
3rd prize Silver Medal Won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.

Nice hens, keen competition between imported and bred.

*Class 20, Indian Game, Cock, heavy.*—6 entries.

1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes Silver Medal, Won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rau.

Nice Collection and well shown.

*Class 20-A, Iudian Game, Cock, light.*—8 entries.

1st, 2nd, prizes Silver Medal, Won by Rajkumar R. V. N. Surya Rau.
3rd prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. S. A. Armour.

Nice collection and well shown.

*Class 21 Indian Game, Hen, heavy.*—6 entries.

1st, 2nd, 3rd prize Silver Medal, Won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rau.

Nice collection and well shown.

*Class 21-A, Indian Game, Hen, light.*—5 entries.

1st, 2nd prize Silver Medal, Won by Rajkumar R. V. M. Surya Rau.
3rd prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. S. A. Armour.

Nice collection and well shown.

*Class 28, Bentam any variety, Cock.*—4 entries.

1st, 2nd, prize Silver Medal, Won by Rajkumari Sri Kamala Devi.

Excellent specimens, attracted very much.

*Class 28-A, Bantam, any variety, Hen.*—8 entries.

1st, 2nd, 3rd prize Silver Medal, Won by Rajkumari Sri Kamala Devi.

Excellent specimens, attracted very much.

*Class 29-A, Any variety exhibited by Novice.*—14 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Minorca, cock, Won by the Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.

2nd prize Silver Medal, R. I. Reds, hen Won by the Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.

3rd prize Silver Medal, Light Sussex Pullet, Won by Mr. C. R. S. Sivan.

Better competition and some nice birds.

*Class 30, Cross breed any varity.*—2 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by S. Ponnusawmy Pillay.

A fair class, but to encourge this class—a prize was awarded.

*Class 31, Trio, any heavy variety.*—11 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Wyandotte Won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rau.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Light Sussex Won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.
3rd prize Silver Medal Wyandotte Won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rau.

Keen competition, well won.

*Claes 32, Trio, any light variety.*—7 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Leghorn, White, Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Minorca, Black, Won by Mr. A. M. Kirby.

A fair class.

*Class 33, Trio, Dantom.*—3 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Rajkumari Sri Kamala Devi.

Excellent.

*Class 35, Duck any variety.*—12 entries.

1st, 2nd prize Silver Medal, Imported Duck, Won by Rajkumar R. V. M. Surya Rao.
2nd prize Silver Medal, Country breed, Won by Mr. S. A. Armour.
3rd prize Silver Medal, Country breed, Won by Mr. K. Venkataratnam.

Very good specimens represented.

*Class 36, Geese, any variety.*—4 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

A mixed class and poorly shown.

*Class 37, Turkey any variety.*—4 entries.

1st prize Silver Medal, Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

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Poorly shown.

*Class 38, Pigeons any variety.—12 entries.*

1st, 2nd prize Silver Medal. Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

3rd prize Silver Medal. Won by Mr. Shaik Ameer Shaib.

Mixed class, poorly shown.

*Class 40, 41, Egg, White and Brown.*

1st prize Silver Medal; Won by Mrs. C. E. Egan. Good size and colour.

*Extras.*

3rd prize Silver Medal. Won by Mr. S. Joel.

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ANY VARIETY EXHIBITED BY INDIANS.

*Class 43, Cock, 9 entries.*

1st prize Silver medal. Wyandotte. Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

2nd prize Silver medal. Leghorn. Won by Mr. R.A.D. Nathan.

3rd prize Silver medal. Light Sussex Won by Master C. R. S. Sivam.

Some nice birds, winners well got up for show-others could have been prepared better and would been rewarded.

*Class 44, Hen, light variety, 6 entries.*

1st & 2nd prize Silver medal. Leghorn. Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

Some nice birds, winners well got up for show, others could have been prepared better and would have been in the awards.

*Cass 44-A, Hen, heavy variety, 9 entries.*

1st prize Silver medal. Wyandotte. Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

2nd prize, Silver medal. Light Sussex. Won by Master C. R. S. Sivam.

3rd prize, Silver medal. Wyandotte. Won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

Some nice birds, winners well got up for show, others could have been prepared better and would have been rewarded.

*Class 47, Any variety exhibited by domestic servant.*

1st prize Silver medal. Leghorn cock Paly Butler.

Entries very poor.

**Special Prizes.**

1. Silver Cup presented by His Excellency Lt. Col. The Right Hon'ble Sir George Frederic Stanley, P.G., G.C.I.E., C.M.G., Governor of Madras.

Best bird in the show, won by Yuvarajah R.V. M.G. Ramarau of Pithapuram.

2. Silver cup presented by His Excellency Lt. Col. The Right Hon'ble Sir George Frederick Stanley, P.G., G.C.I.E., C.M.G., Governor of Madras.

Best bird exhibited by an Indian (Limited) won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

Silver cup presented by Zamindar of Palayampatti and Palavanatham.

3. Best Bantam in the show, won by Rajkumari Sri Kamala Devi.

4. Best Duck in the show, won by Rajkumar R. V. M. Surya Rao.

5. Best Indian Game-heavy variety, won by R. V. M. G. Rama Rao.

6. Best Indian Game-light variety, won by R. V. M. Surya Rao.

*Silver cup presented by S. A. Rao, Esq, Zamindar of Telaprole.*

7. Best bird bred by exhibitor (open) won by Rajkumary Sri Kamaladevi.

8. Best pair in the show, won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rao.

Silver cup presented by the Maharajah of Pithapuram.

9. Best bird in the show, opposite to winner No. 2, won by Master C. R. S. Sivam.

10. Best bird bred by an Indian (limited) won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

11. Best pair in the show, light variety won by The Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.

Silver cup presented by His Highness the Maharajah of Jodhpur.

12. Best bird in the show, opposite to winner No. 1, won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rao.

13. Best trio in the show, Utility. Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

Silver cup presented by His Highness the Maharajah of Jodhpur.

14. Best trio in the show, Exhibition, won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rao.

Silver cup presented by the Rajah of Khallikote.

15. Best Wyandotte in the show, won by Yuvarajah R. V. M. G. Rama Rao.

Silver cup presented by Lady A. Todhunter, O. B. E.

16. Best R. I. Reds in the show, won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.

Silver cup presented by Mrs. C. E. Egan.

17. Best bird exhibited by Novice, won by the Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.

Silver cup presented by Mrs. Dennistoun.

18. Best bird exhibited by Novice (limited), won by Master C. R. S. Sivam.

Silver cup presented by Mr. R. Ry. V. I. Mannadiar Avergal.

19. Most successful exhibitor in Indian Class Limited, won by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

Silver cup presented by Mr. R. Ry. Rao Sahib A. Thangavelu Mudaliar Avergal.

20. Best Leghorn in the show, won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.

Silver cup presented by Mr. C. H. Reader.

21. Best Light Sussex in the show, won by Mrs. C. E. Egan.

Silver cup presented by Mr. R. A. D. Nathan.

22. Best Minorca in the show, won by The Mission Poultry Farm, Katpadi.

Silver cup presented by Messrs Jewellers Ltd.

23. Best young bird in the show, won by Raj Kumari Sri Kamaladevi.

Silver cup presented by the S. I. P. Association.

24. Best collection of Eggs, won by Mr. C. E. Egan.

Consoltation prize—Silver cup presented by the Maharajah of Pithapuram.

25. Best Indian Game in the show, won by Mr. S. A. Armour.

## BEWARE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

Weather and temperature are important matters so far as Poultry are concerned.

All Poultry are susceptible to changes of weather and temperature.

Many fine birds have been lost through these two points being ignored or overlooked.

Whichever it be it behoves all Poultry keepers to give this serious consideration especially with the Nor Wester season here and the coming of the rains with the vast differences in temperature and dampness of the Monsoons.

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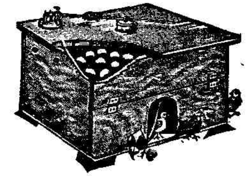

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13.

# CONSIS

Yes, again, for the fifth year, the same heading. And we are proud of it. We *repeat, "Sperrin" birds are the most consistent winners throughout India and Burma. No flash in the pan with an occasional win but they are RIGHT THERE every year,* and will be there again the coming season. And, as a result of last season's wonderful results we can now claim to have exported more winners during the last six years than all other exporters combined, from Europe, America, Australia or Africa. And last year's record is not likely to be beaten or even approached by anyone for some time. Think of it, five clients between them at the Poona, Calcutta and Rangoon shows, annexed 22 cups, 3 gold medals and 44 class prizes of 1st, 2nd and 3rd (we don't count anything below 3rd). And, different birds and different owners at each of these show. At the Poona show our clients Reds were sold by him to the Bombay Government for their experimental farm. Must have been good !! His Sussex were also sold; they got 2 firsts and 1 second. Legborn cockerel also first and see Judge's remarks in his report about that bird. And at Calcutta, the All India !! H. E. the Viceroy's cup for Best Bird in Show with a Red pullet; runner up for the cup with a Minorca cockerel; Best Imported and Best Opposite Sex; Minorca cup won outright by our client; Cup for Best Sussex; and so on, too numourous to mention. Mr. Luke who won H. E. the Viceroy's cup with a pullet from us, has had 1st and 2nd in pullet classes at four All India shows with our Reds, all bred here, and been runner up for Viceroy's cup three times. In fact, "Sperrin" R. I. Red pullets have never been beaten at a show in India or Burma, and have been exhibited at ten such shows. Would not you be proud of such a record? And Sussex! Last season their first at Indian shows. Unbeaten at Poona or Calcutta and none shown at Rangoon. Won both exhibition and utility classes at Calcutta with same strain, our noted exhibition-utility Sussex. Strong class utility Leghorn cockerels won at Poona and Calcutta, none being shown at Burma. Minorcas in clean sweep at both shows, at Burma our client won special for Best Imported Bird and also special for Best opposite sex, in addition to other cups and gold medals. Now, as you know, the **WORLD'S POULTRY CONGRESS** was held last year in London. This meant visitors from India and Burma had a chance of seeing **some** of the **World's Best Poultry** congregated at that Congress. Several visited the farms of the BIG breeders in England and took back with them or had sent them birds from such farms. We did not exhibit at the Congress and our farm was not visited by any fanciers from the East last year. Still, the loss was hardly ours as notwithstanding the large number of birds exported to India and Burma our birds were unbeaten and, as was reported in the "Indian Poultry Gazette", 25% of the exhibits at Calcutta were imported and yet **"Sperrin"** birds swept the board and took every possible honour. Our reputation and the quality of our stock is such that there is no need for us to exhibit at Poultry Congresses nor to spend a small fortune in the English Poultry Press to get a little trade. We do not believe in spending a pound to earn a pound; customers have to pay in the long run. One of our old customers from India did see the big Congress and yet sent us his order. His confidence was not misplaced as he won eight cups at the All India.

# TENCY.

## SELECTION OF STOCK.

How do we manage to send out so many winners year after year? Well, judging from importers that appear in the English Press periodically, many exporters send only their throughouts abroad, selling or keeping their best at Home. We imagine our farm is unique in that it is probably the only farm in England that breeds poultry for the main purpose of export to India and Burma. We aim at 2,000 chicks annually. From these, when from three to five months old, we select about 300 of the very best, the remainder being sold locally by auction. It is from this specially selected 300 that our birds for export are taken, those not exported being retained by us for our own breeding pens. Thus, only birds good enough for our own use are exported by us, and results each year show that it means something to importers

This advert will appear a month or so later than usual as we have held it over to get an idea as to whether our young stock is likely to be the equal of that exported last year and which created such a wonderful record. Well, Reds look better than ever; Leghorns are most certainly better than ever before; Sussex are quite as promising but these take longer to develop and rather early to say definitely, but we have a larger selection this year from our special breeding pen; Minorcas are A. I. again; Anconas none too plentiful but good; white Wyandottes plentiful and very promising (we have never exported any of these but they are the equal of anything we have and a large egg strain). Rocks and Langshans we have dropped practically but have a few.

## PRICES.

According to quality and pedigree. Specimens for exhibition at shows in India and Burma, £7-10, £10, £12-10 and £15 per trio. Single birds from £5 to £10. Purely utility from £2 per head, or £7-10, £8, £9, £10 per trio. Two trios at £12, £13, £14 or £15. Prices are all charges paid to Indian port or to Rangoon, live delivery at port guaranteed.

## STAMINA.

It may interest importers to know that not a single bird exported by us during the last two years has died on the voyage. Our losses on the voyage for six years is now less than one per cent. "Sperrin" birds are bred to live and reproduce their kind. And, our strain is now to be found on the farms of three provincial Governments where utility and not merely show birds are required. They answer both purposes equally well. Bred to live. Bred to lay, and Bred to pay.

**GEO. HOWARD,**
**"Sperrin" Poultry Farm,**
***LANGLEY, HITCHIN,***
**ENGLAND.**

# PRACTICAL MONTHLY ADVICE TO POULTRY KEEPERS.

## Requirements of growing Stock.

The main purpose of every chicken raiser is to assure steady growth of the young stock, which result can only be attained by giving plenty of nourishing food and at the same time avoiding excess of materials that are likely to stimulate too rapid growth.

Discretion must be exercised because chickens reared in confinement require a more elaborate diet containing all the elements which they might have found in the form of natural food, had they been reared on free range.

The experienced and observant rearer will know when his chickens are growing normally, when it is obvious that they are growing too fast or too slow, and when it is necessary to change the diet for any particular purpose.

Rearing on free range simplifies matters considerably, for the protein contained in natural food does not appear to have the same stimulating effect as meat and meat substitutes ; but this may be because the *birds get plenty of exercise, which may counteract* the effect of heavy feeds of worms and insects.

It is undesirable to feed laying stock for quick growth and great size, so that there is no need to give large quantities of green bone or cooked meat, such as might be justified in the case of exhibition stock.

It is a good thing to give dry bone-meal to growing chickens, and this may be mixed with the dry mash or worked in the wet mash as a preventive against trouble.

Dry bone meal looks like a coarse grade of flour, and it may be added to the mash at the rate of one ounce to every half pound of other meals.

The bone-meal should be incorporated with the other meals in a dry state, so that it will be evenly mixed, which is not the case when it is added to wet mash.

If bone-forming foods are given to chickens in a generous proportion, the birds should have plenty of exercise, and the diet should be balanced by the inclusion of vegetable and mineral foods.

With warmer weather and some rain there should be plenty of green food in the form of young grass for chickens running at liberty.

Cockerels for the table should be drafted to small grass or earth runs, there to be fed generously on a fattening diet.

If any of the cockerels are to be run on for stock purpose they should be brought up under natural conditions, on free range if possible. They should be *fed in much the same way as the growing pullets until* the latter reach the laying stage.

Pullets for egg-production must have well-developed bodies, and in addition to *actual growth* they must be allowed time to store up a reserve of energy.

It is inadvisable to feed for quick growth, and early maturity is not desirable, since early maturing pullets are liable to lay small eggs.

Heavy-boned birds of exhibition type grow much more slowly than the light-boned birds of the laying type. Moreover, flesh can be grown much more quickly than bone.

In some of the heavy exhibition breeds cockerels develop very slowly and seem to hang fire for weeks. In such cases one should give bone forming foods, such as dry bone-meal.

If one is breeding for egg-production, slow-growing stock should be avoided, and should never be used in the breeding pen. At the same time, quick maturing pullets which lay small eggs should also be avoided.

Heavy-boned cockerels are difficult to fatten. Indeed, it is necessary to finish bone development before an attempt is made to get them to put on flesh.

Some more useful advice about the management of growing stock will be found in.

**Next Month's Practical Advice.**

### IRELAND *vs.* AMERICA.

American (boasting) : "In my country we have a hen that lays an egg six inches long."

Irishman : "In Oirland we can bate thot !"

"How ?"

"With an egg bater, sor."

## BREEDING WHITE LEGHORNS.

*New Zealand's Champion Winner of Laying Tests Tells how he has won Success.*

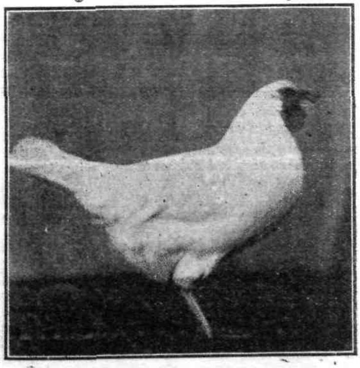
So much has been written in the past by capable writers on this breed, that whilst I have met with considerable success, my experience extending over twenty years, it may still be considered insufficient to enable me to convey useful information and advice to the uninitiated. On the other hand, it is my sincere desire to assist not only the amateur, but also the breeder, and to further the interests of this breed.

With this end in view any little knowledge I possess is most freely given, and I hope that from the perusal of these notes those for whom they are intended may derive benefit.

### Keep to the Standard.

During the past few years the White Leghorn has been very much improved, both as regards breeding and also in egg production. Thanks is due to our Government Poultry experts, egg laying competitions, and also to breeders themselves' who have developed and maintained a very high standard of breeding and egg producing qualities in the White Leghorns of New Zealand to-day. Size, type, and colour are most important breed points to observe' and White Leghorn breeders should aim to produce birds as near as possible to the ideal birds as set out in the New Zealand Poultry Standard.

The improvement to be seen in our White Leghorns is evidence of the breeders' art, and a result of what has been done by careful selection and careful breeding. In White Leghorns, as in all other breeds, colour is most important, and pure white should be the aim of every breeder. This can only be obtained by discarding all inferior coloured specimens, particularly in males, no matter what other good points they possess, when selecting one's breeding stock.



WHITE LEGHORN PULLET.

There are many systems of selecting birds for laying qualities. Undoubtedly the only infallible guide is to keep a record of the eggs laid by each individual bird, by means of either a trap nest or single pen. The exact number of eggs laid by each bird can thus be ascertained. While this system is a splendid one, it involves a considerable amount of housing accommodation, and also a great deal of labour' which on a large commercial egg farm makes this system quite out of the question. My readers can quite imagine the work on a farm like my own' where I require 1'000 breeding hens every season, and it would be an impossibility to trap nest or single-pen sufficient hens to get this number of breeders. I claim and honestly believe that by close observation and study of one's birds over a number of years it is quite possible to get equally good results by selection.

### Best Layers Not Always Best Breeders.

The selection of the most desirable hens to breed from the following year should be made before the termination of the birds' first laying season. Generally, March or early April is the best time to select suitable birds for the next season's breeding pen. While it is generally recognised that lateness of moulting is one of the best indications of productive power, the fact cannot be emphasised too much that the best layer is not necessarily the best breeder. If everything is sacrificed to egg production something will undoubtedly suffer before long.

Constitution will be weakened, size of bird and egg will surely decline, and the difficulty of rearing strong vigorous stock will be increased. The danger of trying to improve one character by weakening another should always be kept in mind, and while aiming at the ideal layer, we must see that other important features are not sacrificed in the process. Type, constitution, the bird's ability as a layer, and above all the desired size should be our constant aim, and it is necessary, if our laying flocks are to be properly maintained' that these facts should be appreciated, for there is a great deal more in securing the ideal stock aimed at than the mere choosing of the breeders.

Hens should not be put in breeding pen after every possible egg has been forced from them, they should have a good rest before being bred from. I always select my breeding hens in April, and immediately discourage them from further laying until the beginning of July, so that after ten or twelve weeks' rest from laying, they have had an opportunity of building up their vitality again, before being called upon for eggs for breeding purposes. If the selection of the breeding hens is left till the flock has moulted, the accurate choosing of the most desirable hens is a matter of great difficulty, for all late moulters are not necessarily the best of breeding stock, and it is almost imposible to select hens on form when a bird is moulting or has not fully recovered from it.

### The Merit of Late Moulting.

As to the merit of late moulting, all the circum stances surrounding the stock and their management must be considered. In saying that the late moulter

is generally the best layer and breeder. it must be assumed that the birds were bred more or less about the usual time, say July, August or September. My experience is that pullets hatched in those must not only start to lay earlier, but also lay on much longer than October or November hatched pullets, and it is from these early hatched birds that I usually find the majority of my breeders the following season.

When pullets must be used they should be well matured birds, hatched in the early spring of the previous season, and should be mated to cock birds and not cockerels. In all my years of breeding I have never bred from pullets, but always from second or third year hens, mated to cockerels, which are usually about twelve months old and fully matured.

### Constitution Important.

In selecting the male, the first thing to look to is undoubtedly constitution, while size, type and colour are also most important. There is no safer indication of constitutional vigour than the head, and this is absolutely the first requirement in the breeding pen cockerel. Granted, of course, that the bird is of the desired laying blood, the head should be masculine in every respect, but this should not imply coarseness. The very expression of the masculine head is a good sign of the possess ion of constitutional vigour, while the weak, sluggish expression oft he feminine head indicates a bird which will possibly reduce the quality of the stock' both from vigour and productive view points rather than advance it.

There are other indications suggestive of the desired type, such as chest development, width across the back, depth through the body, the width between the legs, the quality of the legs themselves, tight feathering, pure white colour, size and an alert, bold carriage. The surest means to select a cockerel that will advance breed points and egg producing power is to have a bird possessed of the above mentioned characters combined if possible with a pedigree of performance of the annual egg yield of its mother.

THE LADY EZRA CHALLENGE CUP
for
THE BEST MINORCA OWNED BY A CLUB MEMBER.

One weakness in many of our Leghorns to be guarded against is decreasing size, not only in the birds themselves, but also in the eggs they lay. We certainly must not use any but well matured cockerels, however well they may be breed, if we are still further to improve this highly productive breed of poultry. A cockerel to produce birds that will last out a long and heavy laying season must have plenty of body about him, while the foregoing remarks can be equally apply to the breeding hens.

The object of the poultryman should be breed a flock of strong, sturdy layers of a uniform type, which will plainly exhibit the desired points referred to, constitution, laying power and breed characters. It is no easy matter to attain this ideal, and it is just as difficult to maintain it even when it has been secured.

When breeding it is always advisable to choose birds for the breeding, both male and female, of a size even larger than that of the ideal weight, for it is so easy to lose size in breeding, but much hardour to maintain the desired size without introducing coarseness into the type. In spite of our breeding, some small birds will always make their appearance without breeding for them.

The number of hens to one male depends entirely on the amout of range and the vigour of the male. On a free range good results may be obtained with one male to say 20 hens, but the number must be considerably reduced when the birds are confined to a small space.

### Give Plenty of Exercise.

It is most important that the birds in a breeding pen must have plenty of exercise. If the run is not large there should be ample litter provided in order to induce the birds to take exercise. If the breeders are not kept thoroughly fit, vigorous progeny cannot be expected. We cannot expect to produce strong, healthy chickens from birds that are confined to small houses with little or no exercise as well as an absence of an abundance of green feed. There is nothing like having the breeders on free range in plenty of good grass, and I know from experience this is the ideal condition under which the best results will be obtained.

### Feed the Breeders Well.

The feeding of the breeders is also most important. I have proved that better fertility and strong stock will be obtained from the feeding of grain to the breeders night and morning, the grain being thrown in deep litter. The best of grain only should be used, and if mash is used it should not be of a forcing nature.

It is a great mistake to give the breeders a large proportion of animal or forcing foods. At such a time the birds cannot be over supplied with green feed, or better still, out on a good grass run. I find a good mixture of grain to feed to the breeders is wheat, ooats and maize in equal parts.

In conclusion, I may say very much more could be written on this subject, as in the space of this short article it is impossible to do justice to so large a subject. However, I trust the above will be of some interest to at least a few who may chance to read it, and I trust they will accept the advice and information in the same spirit in which it is given.

**We might say for the benefit of readers that April in New Zealand is about equal to our October here and their July our December.**

# MAKE YOUR OWN MAGAZINE

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## THE GREATEST OF THEM ALL !

Find a friend who has not yet seen the "ASSAM REVIEW" and show him or her this month's issue —the "REVIEW" will do the rest !

## - Mrs. Lamberts Poultry pills for all Ills -

*Obtainable from :*

**Mrs. TROWER, RESIDENCY ROAD, JODHPUR,**

*Re.* **1**/- *per tin of* **36**, *postage extra.*

**4** *tins and above postage paid.*

A Boon to all Poultry lovers. Protect your Birds against all ills. Fortify against the Ranikhet ailment by administering a pill every morning to your birds in any affected area.

**Once tried always appreciated.**

**NUMEROUS UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.**

**Keep a box always by you as a guarantee against disease.**

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## BLACK MINORCAS.

Settings of eggs available from my Prize Winning Birds which won highest honours at 1931 All India Poultry Exhibition.

Rs. **12**/- for 8 eggs.

**Cash with Order. :: :: No replacements.**

ALL CHARGES PAID.

**Orders booked in rotation.**

12 **W. E. J. YULE,**

Carmichael Court, - - - DARJEELING.

### BREEDER'S CARD.

Eggs from choicest Asils Rs. **18**/- per doz.
From All India Winners ,, **22**/- ,, ,,

In each case cash with order

Poultry Cure-all pills Rs. **2**/- per pkt.

Eggs are delivered to all purchasers free but pills are sent free to members of the I. P. Club also Asil Club only.

**The Ideal Aseel House,**
P. O. CHHUCHAKWAS.
Dist. ROHTAK.
PUNJAB.

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### IMPORTED PEDIGREED

### White Leghorns.

The finest stock available in England, landed 1st October 1930.

Cockerel whose dam and sire's dam laid 525/528 eggs in 24 months, heading a pen of 10 hens with records of 270/288 eggs in 12 months.

Eggs (2 ozs. and over)

Rs. **18**/- per dozen.

**Mrs. R. POWELL,**

11 **Kanchrapara, E. B. Rly.**

### SOUTH INDIAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

Yearly subscription Rs. 3. Two poultry shows per annum. Strong working Committee. Expert advice given, post mortem examinations undertaken at nominal charge, members only. Further particulars from Hony. Secy., S.I.P.A., Aruvankadu, Nilgiris.

Exc.

### ROBERT'S STAR PILLS.

### Nos. 1 and 2.

No. 1 Cures Cholera and green Diarrhoea.

No. 2 Cures Tick Fever and contains directions how to get rid of ticks.

Full instructions with each box. 48 Pills in a box, Re. 1. When ordering write name and address distinctly.

Pills for Turkey chicks during their infancy to pull them through their infant ailments.

Apply A. G. Roberts,

3-B, Museum Road, Bangalore.

2.

ভারতীয়

## পৌলট্রি সমাচার।

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পশুপালকদের জন্য

বঙ্গভাষায়

লিখিত একমাত্র পত্রিকা।

### BREEDER'S CARD.

My recently imported LIGHT SUSSEX won at the All-India, January, 1931, Cup for best Sussex in show, also one special, three firsts and one second. Eggs Rs. **10**/- per half dozen.

My pen of WHITE LEGHORNS is headed by a cock whose sire's dam laid 322 eggs in twelve months. Eggs Rs. **12**/- per dozen.

**K. D. GARRISON,**

12 ***Akola Berar, C. P.***

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,

As you are probably aware, articles have appeared on occasions in the newspapers advocating the formation of a co-operative Marketing Society for the sale of eggs overseas, where, as is well known, a ready market is existent. That such a society would be a boon to the Poultry-man in India will, I am sure, not be disputed by anyone who has been faced by the problem of disposing of surplus table-eggs in such a manner that the return would be commensurate with the time, labour and money expended. To the best of my knowledge the newspaper articles referred to met with no response from a responsible organisation. Since this is the case, I venture to put forward a suggestion which has occurred to me, and which, inspite of mature consideration presents, to my way of thinking, no very serious obstacles and many advantages. I suggest that such a Co-operative Society could suitably be formed under the auspices of the Indian Poultry Club, and conducted and managed by the club officials (either by the existing ones or by members specially selected for the purpose honorary or salaried), the several advantages presenting themselves to me as a result of the Indian Poultry Club adopting this suggestion are summarised under the following headings :—

1. The Club being in close touch with Poultry Associations and dealers overseas would be able to secure more favourable markets than individual dealers or than organisations outside the "Fancy". Also, as a well-established and reputable Club, it would inspire confidence with both the principals to the transaction, the buyer and the seller.

2. The Club being interested solely in poultry matters would devote more interest and zeal to the undertaking than a business firm, who, after all, would consider such a trade solely from a financial-point of view.

3. Such a Co-operative Society, being as offshoot of the Indian Poultry Club, would open up an additional, appreciable and increasing source of revenue to the Club, whose finances, it is understood, are not in a very satisfactory condition.

4. The benefit to the utility poultry-man is obvious, since he would be sure of a ready market for all the produce he could supply. This would undoubtedly be an incentive to him to increase the number and quality of his stock.

5. The general improvement in the breed of poultry amongst Indian cottagers also will, I think you must agree, follow rapidly on an ever-ready demand for 2 oz. eggs, a "desideratum" which is very near to the heart of members of the Indian Poultry Club.

In conjuction with, or as an alternative to, an overseas trade, the possibility of a demand for new-laid and fresh eggs in the larger towns in India might be studied. However, I will not venture to put forward the working details of the scheme, as these would most fittingly be decided by the Club Committee. The opinion of other experienced poultrymen might also be elicited through the correspondence columns of the Indian Poultry Gazettee' when possibly obstacles might be disclosed which would be insurmountable inspite of honest endeavour and enterprize.

Should you consider the proposal likely to be beneficial to the poultry keeper in India, I shall be grateful if you would lend it your valued support.

Yours faithfully,

G. M. B.

*Dated 8th June 1931.* *Simla.*

## Keep Floor Clear.

In arranging equipment in a poultry house, it is well to have all the floor space available for the hens. Feed hoppers, water fountains, dropping boards, and nests should be high enough so that the hens can use the floor under them.

Also arrange this equipment so that it will be most convenient for the birds. It is well to have a water fountain between two feed hoppers so that the birds can pass from one to the other easily. Have the entire unit in a well lighted section of the house, so the birds will have no difficulty in eating and drinking early and late.

## Nesting Space.

Nests are an important item in poultry house equipment as a great many eggs will be lost if suitable nests are not provided. One nest for every five hens should be about the right number. Arrange them on the walls at the end of the building, making them two or three tiers high if necessary. For small breeds the nests may be 12 by 12 inches, but for larger breeds, they should be 12 by 14 inches. The nests should be kept filled with a suitable nesting material, such as straw, hay or shavings. This material should be renewed frequently so that the nests and eggs will be kept clean.

*Note.*—The Editor welcomes suggesting from readers and will be pleased to give publicity to any sound schemes readers would care to offer,

## IMPORTED THIS YEAR.

**Light Sussex.** Settings from Winner Harper Adams Trials. 1st Prize, England.
Rs. 20/- per dozen.

**White Orpingtons.** 1st Prize. From Rs. 30- a Trio. Settings Rs. 16/- per dozen.

**Cockerels from these two record strains Rs. 20/- each. (8 months old.)**

**Mrs. M. Ward.**
RED GABLES.
12 SHILLONG.

## JERSEY BLACK GIANTS.

Eggs from acclimated imported prize birds, excellent layers of large brown eggs.
*Rs.* 30/- *per dozen.*
Pullets and Cockerels available.
Standard weights.
*Cock 12 to 13 lbs. approx.*
*Hen 10 lbs. approx.*
Mrs. FIRTH.
*Ajmer, Rajputana.*
11

## GOOD LAYERS
## IMPORTED STOCK.

**R. I. Reds.**
**White Leghorns.**
**Black Minorcas.**

Young stock from the above breeds at reasonable rates.

Settings of eggs Rs. 16/- per doz.

Bose's improved Chittagongs
Settings Rs 4/- per doz.

New Laid country fowl eggs, milk fed chickens and fattened fowls supplied to local customers at moderate prices.

**J. B. BOSE,**
**BOSE'S POULTRY,**
TITAGHUR,
E. B. Ry.
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## A. O. FODEN,
NARAYANGUNGE.

Sold out of all chicks and ducklings for the season.

Surplus White Leghorns Cockerels 4 to 6 months old. All from highly fecund stock and vigourous.

**Rs 10/- and Rs 8/- each.**

I had to refuse over 20 orders for sittings of eggs last season and I beg to announce I am this year doubling breeding pens and trust customers will book early to save last year's disappointments.

Supply from October onwards.

## VISVA-BHARATI.
**Institute of Rural Reconstruction.**
POULTRY FARM.
## THE BEST IN BENGAL.

Trains apprentices in scientific Poultry keeping. Awards from the 1927 World's Poultry Congress, Ottawa, Canada, and several Prizes at the All India Poultry Shows

***Specialities:—***
**Rhode Island Reds, W. Leghorns and Chittagongs.**
***For particulars apply to:—***
**Director, Sriniketan, P. O. Surul.**
9 **BOLPUR.**

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## THE INHERITANCE OF FECUNDITY
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## FOWLS.

Price Rs. 4/6/- post free.

*From—*
**The Hon. Editor,**
NARAYANGUNGE, E. B.

## A. C. BULLMORE.
**"ARTHURSTON" Poultry Farm**
*Mount Road, Madras.*

Breeder of Highest-Pedigree Prolific Laying Exhibition & Utility Poultry.

**White Leghorns**:—Barrons, Padmans & Tancred 300 Egg Strain.

**Rhode Island Reds**:—Golden & American Utility, English & American Exhibition Strains

**Eggs**:—From General Pens (White Leghorns only) - Rs. 7/- dozen, Special Pens - Rs. 15/-, Extra Special Rs. 20/-, Super Special Rs. 25/- dozen.

*Infertiles (if any) replaced free.*
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## IMPORTED PENS.

WHITE LEGHORNS—300 egg Tancred strain.
RHODE ISLAND REDS—Iowa State College utility strain.
TURKEYS—First class Indian bred birds.
All laying stock is pedigreed and trap-nested.

**Eggs Rs. 12/- per dozen, baby chicks, young stock at reasonable prices.**

**MISSION POULTRY FARM,**
Katpadi, South India.
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**A £ 5 PRIZE.**

Maintain the stamina and quality of "Sperrin" starains by keeping them pure. We offer each year a cockeral value £ 5 as special for best bird at All India show bred in India from our strains, with no outcrossing. If you cannot import, then enquire conditions and purchase eggs from those who have hour imported stock. Geo. Howard.

**Conditions under which special prize value £ 5 will be granted by Mr. Howard. Sperrin Poultry Farm, Langley, Hitchin.**

(*a*) Cockerel value £ 5 to be given to exhibitor owning the bird judged to be the Best Bird exhibited at the All India Poultry Show and which has been bred in India from pure 'Sperrin" strains, *i.e.* where both sire and dam are pure Sperrin birds.

(*b*) Exhibitors to notify on their entry forms to the Show Secretary any bird that is eligible for this award.

(*c*) The cockerel will be sent out to India the following season in time for the following All India Show and must be entered for that show by the winner.

(*d*) Winner to name breed required, and need not necessarily be same breed as that of bird that won, provided breed required is one that is stocked by the "Sperrin" Poultry Farm.

(*e*) All expenses to Indian port will be paid by donor. Collection and onward charges from Port to be paid by winner.

(*f*) The value of cockerel (£ 5) is that of bird delivered at Indian port, and will be of similar grade to those exported with £ 10 and £ 12 trios.

# THE COLLASPIBLE HEN HOUSE.

*By Bubble de Squeak.*

"Hurray, Bubbles, its come at last" cried Honey suckle all smiles one very hot July morning "How fortunate that you have a day off and Colonel Puff-puff is here with you."

"What has come—the Black Maria ?"

"Don't be stupid, the hen house has come."

"Good heavens" I groaned "My poor wife has been out in the sun again."

"Of course I forgot to tell you, Bubbles. This is my special little surprise for you. Its the most wonderful little hen house in the world, and so simple to make, too. Its made up of sections and bits and things and all that you have to do is to build it."

"Well, I must admit that that sounds extremely simple" I told my wife "Do you know, old dear, I really don't know how I should get on without you. All these little surprises of yours are most helpful to me. We shall make a start on the hen house to-morrow. Cheerioh, Colonel."

"You will build it to-day" said Honeysuckle, affectionately.

"Yes, love."

"Selfish brute. How would you like to be the sweetest little chicken in the world and nowhere to call your home ? You wouldn't expect to lay many eggs in a soap box, would you ?"

"Well, hardly. But a whole hen house for one chicken ! Of course it will be a great place for me to keep my old books in—and your ukulele."

"Thank you. The Colonel can assist in the building."

"I didn't come here to build any hen houses" roared the Colonel.

"You will do as you are told" said Honeysuckle, in a friendly tone.

"Yes, madam."

"Here are the instructions 'The Collapsible Hen House' "she read" 'This enjoyable method of building hen houses has revolutionised the poultry world from the Bristol Grill to Chawrusta. It can be built by a teething baby in half an hour. Simply nail section A to section B, and section B to section C and so on. When finished the whole affair can be converted into a portable wireless set by anybody who has taken a full course of Pelmanism. It is so snug and comfortable that your fowl will always get up late in the mornings, and if they could only speak, they would say thank you."

"In fowl language, I should imagine, what ?"

"Anyway, you can get on with it now. It will do you more good than sitting here.

"Great Scott" I gasped walking out into the compound with Honeysuckle and the Colonel "Is this it ? Why, it looks like a young jute godown."

"Now then, you get hold of the hammer and nails, bubbles, and the Colonel can sort out the sections".

"If there is anything I detest its a hen house" growled the Colonel.

"Right, I'm all worked up now" I cried "We will put all the pieces together on the ground, and then hammer the sides up afterwards. Heres A and heres B. Thanks Colonel. Pass over the nails, ducky. There you are, how simple it is ?

"None of that language, Bubbles. Hit the nail, not your thumb."

"E to F, and F to G. There you are, thats two sides nearly finished. Wait until we are picking up the eggs at dawn every morning, old girl. 'I miss the rooster, the one that useter, wake me up at four a.m."

"Stop singing, and get on with it."

"Right. M to N and N to O. Won't we get big eggs, Honeysuckle ? We shall have devilled eggs for breakfast made form that recipe that was in the 'Indian Poultry Gazette' the other month. Oh, boy, if theres one thing I like its devilled eggs off your own poultry farm. 'The de Squeak Poultry Farm,' what do you think about that, Honeysuckle ? W to X and X to Y and Y to Z. Isn't that fine, Colonel ?"

"Splendid, splendid. Old army idea, of course, old army idea."

"It would be. Now then, lets join all the sides together. If you hold one side up, Honeysuckle, and the Colonel holds the other, I'll nail them together. Steady there whcop."

"Help ! Help ! What the, why the, how the" roared the Colonel as we raised the fallen side and extracted him from beneath.

"So sorry, Colonel, these things happen in the best regulated hen houses. Now then, hold hard Honeysuckle—remember Amy Johnson......steady, just support it, don't shove......there you are, nailed up in two shakes of the old lambs tail. Now then, the other side......hold tight for two or three minutes......just wait until I whack in a few more solid nails......one extra for luck...... splendid. Thats three sides finished. Now then, what about a drink ?"

"I should think that we need a drink now" said Colonel Puff-puff.

"Right, lets get one"

Crash ! Bang ! !

"What do you know about that ? I demanded "Isn't it enough to make a guy go crazy ? As soon as we turned our backs that confounded goat rubbed against the hen house and knocked it over."

"Well, get it finished" said Honeysuckle.

"Right. Lets get on with the roof."

"Better put the floor in first."

"Hum, I suppose that that would be best after all."

"And don't put the floor near the ground, Bubbles. The poor chick might get cold feet."

"Say about that high ? Right, will you both support the sides while I nail in the floor ? Good, don't shove, Colonel. Here, go easy, the things coming right over......thats better......easy, does it, one more plank now......hurray there you are, as nice a little floor as ever a chicken walked on. We must get some straw afterwards, Honeysuckle, and a nice little pillow for chicky. Now then, the roof."

"We haven't got a ladder."

"Push the beastly thing over on its side."

"Good idea, Colonel. Come on, altogether......hey oh, there you are......hurry with the planks......two jiffies, and its all finished. Splendid. Now then, if we lift the ends the thing will stand up. All together—one-two-three, Great. It doesn't look very straight, but the wind will blow it alright."

"Its all over on one side" said Honeysuckle.

"Well, we can put a prop against it for the time being. Hens always lay better eggs on the slant. Now then the front, and the last side. If the Colonel will get inside and hold the side up while I nail it, we will soon be finished. You will have to stoop, Colonel, you are so tall. I beg your pardon ? Only for a few minutes......thats the idea. Now then, Honeysuckle, hurray up with the nails. There you are, two more nails and it will be complete......I'll put solid long nails in for luck ? There you are, all finished, and you were thinking that your ikkle hubby couldn't build the hen house for you."

"There seems to be an enormous amount of wood left over, Bubbles. Almost enough to build another hen house."

"These companies are like that—always send much more than you really want. Now then, what about a photograph ?"

"Let me out ? Let me out ! !"

"What ever is that—an earthquake ?" asked Honeysuckle as the whole hen house leaned over on to one side and flattened out.

"Good heavens, its the Colonel. We forgot to put a door in the hen house, and I've nailed him inside."

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**Questions under this heading are answered free of charge on this page.**

**Letters should be addressed—BUFF ROCK,**
**C/o. The Hon. Editor, I. P. GAZETTE and marked "Query".**

**Where readers desire an individual reply they should enclose a stamped addressed envelope and a fee of As. -/8/- is charged.**

Mr. T. Karimgunge. Your pullets have come on to lay too soon and I am afraid it is not possible to do much for them now except feed correctly and on no account force. You will probably find they go out of lay in about September or early October and after 2-3 weeks rest will start off again with a larger egg.

Yo might try to induce a moult at the end of August by lowering the ration but I doubt if they will be clear of it by December unless handled well and fed up again once the moult is well on.

Mrs. W. Serampur. In the Exhibition R. I. Red grey, or in fancier's terms; smut' in the underplumage is a pronounced fault and if you are selecting for exhibition if I were you I should bar all birds with this fault as they will not do well.

The R. I. Red should be red as it's name signifies, and red right through, to be a good bird.

As regards literature on the subject the latest book on the breed was advertised in this paper last month. It is very sound work and I do not think you can purchase a better book amongst the moderns on this breed.

Mr. P. Cuttack. The cause of this bird dying is that it either was chased and damaged by a dog, jumped or fell from too high a perch or in some way received a bad knock or jar just prior to its laying an egg and the egg broke inside the oviduct causing death. If you have had opened it up you would no doubt have found the parts of a broken shell lodged inside the oviduct whereas the contents of the egg drained away through the vent.

Nursing a bird through this is no easy task and with the best of care about 80% will not pull through.

Mrs. S. Alipore. I gave you a run area of 100 square yards as I was under the impression yo wished to keep the birds in a confined space to prevent damage to garden, etc., but if you intend to allow free range then I would say a small wired run of about 10 square yards will surfice for them to come out in the early morning before being liberated, and also for giving the night feed, etc.

Iguanas are a pest where fowls are concerned, especially as egg eaters but unless the undergrowth is heavy grown fowls will not often fall prey to these animals.

Mr. D. Calcutta. Regarding the article on sanitation you refer to my own opinion is that the amount of sun we get in India makes Vita Glass of less use than at home. There is that about it though that Vita Glass with keep your runs dry now the monsoons are here and also allow the beneficial properties of the sun's rays to get at the birds. Personally I only use ordinary glass.

Mr. Sen G. Chitpur. I am sorry but I have no experience of this breed in India and would not like to advise you one way or the other as should they prove a failure the expense of shipping from England of Holland would be a dead loss. If you should care to risk the expense however I should say the chances of their doing well are quite good if taken proper care of and fed also housed properly. (Would any reader of this who has or knows of anyone with Faverolles on the plains of India be good enough to give me his experiences with them as this is the 2nd enquiry I have received).

Mr. B. Ranchi. I do not know of any institution that trains persons as you wish but I would prefer you to write our Hon. Editor who will be better able to advise on the subject. There are many farms taking pupils for practical traing, this also would be better in the hands of the Editor.

Mrs. L. Dinajpur. I wonder you did not see the advertisement re: this book in the Gazette. Apply to the Secretary, U. P. P. A. Lucknow.

Postal replies sent to Messrs. Vertannes, Boyd, Fenton, Bryan and Rockwood.

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WHY CHICKENS DON'T TALK.

The following conversation was overheard between two boys, aged seven and five.

"Joe, why can't chickens talk ?"

"Aw, they don't have to ; when they wants any thing they just pull their wishbones and they get their wish."

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